



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/2/6

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 2962

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 15 SEPTEMBER 2023
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 32)

2962. Mrs M R Mohlala (EFF) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

Whether his department has moved for critical water and sanitation infrastructure projects to be declared as national key points, with the necessary security to reduce the countrywide theft and vandalism of infrastructure, which impacts service delivery to communities; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details?

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MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

Yes, as an asset owner the Department had some of the national water resource infrastructure declared as National Key Points, dependent on the criticality of specific government water schemes. All of these National Key points are guarded by qualified armed security guards which are officials in the department whereas non-strategic assets are guarded by private security companies. It must be noted that due to the nature of conveyance systems (including canals, pipelines and tunnels), it would be challenging to have sufficient security measures in place to completely mitigate the risk of vandalism.

However, there are operating and maintenance agreements with water boards and water user associations for government water schemes that are remotely located. These institutions assist with the safeguarding of these assets.

Water Boards have taken similar steps to have some of their critical infrastructure declared as National Key Points, but more is to be done for similar classification strategies to be followed at the municipal level; regarding local water and sanitation assets (owned by municipalities).

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DRAFT REPLY: RECOMMENDED/ ~~NOT RECOMMENDED~~/ AMENDED



DR SEAN PHILLIPS
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 22 09 2023

DRAFT REPLY: APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED/ AMENDED



MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION
DATE: 28/9/23